

### Community assessment means

- Gathering data
- Learning about the community
- More about youth, hearing their voices
- Broader perspective
- Opportunities and threats
- Listening to other stakeholders along the way
- Community entry - building relationships, partners
- Use my fresh eyes!

### Goal of my assessment

- Determine if there is a problem and if there are barriers getting in the way of that access
- What does access really mean?
- Where did the idea for the mentoring program come from?
- Are they still in the process of determining the need/solutions

### To dos

- Talk to my supervisor
- Connect with the advisory group

### Community Assessment Process Steps

#### 1 Define the Scope

- Frame the Problem
- Identify questions
  - Access barrier questions
  - What is already being done?
- Identify the community
  - Students
  - Confirm geographic scope
- Identify beneficiaries
  - Low income youth - how to define them?
  - Just homelessness or other broader youth
  - Drop out data
- Identify other stakeholders
  - High schools, non profits, parents youth, courts and criminal justice folks, health care agencies, mental health orgas, institutional racism focused places and homelessness that affect all ages

#### 2 Gather Data

- Federal Stats (<https://www.usa.gov/statistics>)
  - Population and Housing Census

- Community Profile
- Youth Risk Behavior Survey
- Prevention Needs Assessment

Data source ideas from chat:

- American Community Survey
  - Kids Count
  - Chamber of commerce
  - Community colleges
  - United ways in some areas do assessments
  - National Survey on Drug Use and Health
  - Library databases
  - Community commons
  - [nationalequityatlas.org](http://nationalequityatlas.org)
  - Poverty Assessment by School Districts  
<https://www.census.gov/did/www/schooldistricts/data/poverty.html>
  - <https://www.racialequitytools.org/home>
  - VI-SPLDAT - Vulnerability Index - Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool
  - VISTA Regional Issues - Education - 25K Opportunity Youth
  - DataHaven (in CT)
  - <https://headwaterseconomics.org/tools/populations-at-risk/>
  - Local health department may have produced a Community Health Needs Assessment
  - [www.zip-codes.com](http://www.zip-codes.com)
  - Refugee/Immigrant data: <http://www.wrapsnet.org/> & <http://www.rcusa.org/>
  - Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's County Health Rankings. [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org)
  - Technology of Participation website <https://icausa.memberclicks.net/>
  - Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
  - <https://ydekc.org/resource-center/measurement-evaluation/> (Western WA specific)
- Community Level Indicators
    - Low income students
    - Levels of support (FAFSA, Scholarships, etc)
    - Mentoring programs
    - Educational - department of education, OSPI
    - Homeless youth - point in time, ask partners
    - Western Washington U
    - Keep digging! - Check city or county building, library
    - Ask partners to see their data
  - Community member experiences
    - Surveys, focus groups, interview, and observation

- Get a sense of people's lives - talk to the people experiencing
- Identify barriers/needs
- Intersectionality between issues and figures
- What does my target group really need (other issues at play) - to help them do what they need to be successful. I.e shannon's child care example
- How do i design surveys and lead focus groups?

## Resources

Check out Kansas University Community Toolbox

<http://ctb.ku.edu/en>

Settle into the discomfort. You will be nervous and that is ok

### 3. Organize Key findings

- Summarize
- Work with supervisor and advisory committed to tease out points
- Categories: Clarifying the problem, Summarizing existing services and resources, Identify gaps (community members will really share info on gaps)
- If you need additional info, go back find it

### 4. Set Priorities

- Ask about vision for the future
  - What is being done to support the vision?
  - What gaps exist?
  - What opportunities exist?
  - Which opportunities and gaps can we address?

### 5. Communicate

- With staff, board, advisors, partners and others
- Stakeholders and beneficiaries
- What was done and how it is being used?